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OCO-M-75-466

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Compartmented Information Branch, OCO
SUBJECT : Cryptographic Clearance Program

1. As a follow up to our recent telephone conversation we would like to present some additional information on our clearance program to help clarify any doubtful areas which exist.

2. The present configuration of this program is such that a cryptographic clearance is broken down into different "phases" or "categories." These numbered categories represent different limitations or constraints imposed on the recipient of the clearance by the Office of Communications. The breakdown and definitions are described below:

a. CRYPT-1: Indicates the clearance has been granted under a waiver. It is applied under circumstances where the individual does not meet [redacted] criteria for granting of a cryptographic clearance, but operational considerations are such that a waiver is granted.

b. CRYPT-2: This designation indicates the individual is cleared for "access only." The term "access" applies to the cryptographic area and not to keying material, techniques, equipment, or documents. CRYPT-2 is granted to personnel having need to transit thru or work in areas where cryptographic material is openly stored or used.

c. CRYPT-3: A full cryptographic clearance with no limitations. It is granted to personnel requiring access to or use of accountable cryptographic material used in processing Staff communications on a recurring basis.

d. CRYPT-4: Granted to those individuals who set-up and operate the KY-3 secure voice terminals (Green Phones). This limits access to KY-3 equipment and keying material only.

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6. CRYPT-9: Identifies the holder of the clearance as a "Contractor" as distinct from a "Contract" or Staff employee.

7. CRYPT-6 thru 8: These categories are not used at the present time, but may be assigned a definition should the need for additional categories arise.

8. CRYPT-9: This designation was intended to serve as a holding category for those clearances which had been approved prior to the implementation of the category break-down, but for which no briefing statements had been received. As categories were assigned to those clearances the CRYPT-9 would be phased out and fall into a reserve status with CRYPT 6, 7, and 8. Since feedback to our Staff from the various divisions has been rather slow CRYPT-9 remains in use.

3. We have recently received a copy of your current data on cryptographic clearances and are in the process of correlating this information with that held by our Staff. We intend to resolve all discrepancies to include category designation (CRYPT 1, 2, etc.) as well as validity of the clearance. At that point we should have a current data base from which to work. A copy of this updated information will be provided to CIB when completed.

4. We hope the above information will provide a better insight into our cryptographic clearance program. Problems still exist within the program, however, we feel the first step in their resolution is to begin with a current and valid data base. From there we can progress to joint discussions between our Staffs with the objective of increasing both the efficiency and effectiveness of this program.

Chief, Communications Security Staff, OC

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